

9 September 1977

25X1A
MEMORANDUM FOR: Security Officer

ATTENTION: [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: Enclosure

1. You are requested to deliver the enclosed letter personally to the addressee. Should this not be possible, it may be transmitted through secure company channels.

2. Although the letter is not classified, should retention be desired, it is recommended that it be stored in accordance with instructions contained in "Standard Security Procedures for Contractors."

3. Your assistance in this matter is greatly appreciated.

25X1A

[REDACTED]
Chief, Security Staff
Office of Logistics

25X1

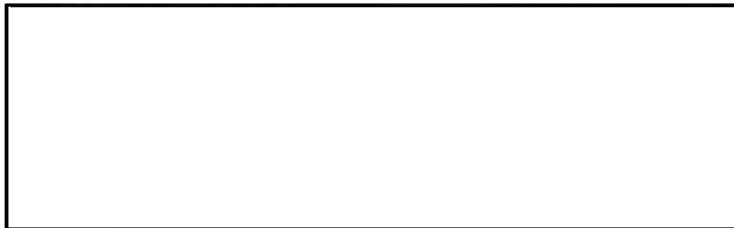
CONFIDENTIAL

A

Washington, D.C. 20505

9 September 1977

STATINTL



The purpose of this letter is to bring to your attention a matter of urgent importance to the national security interests of this country, and to seek your assistance.

Within the last few weeks, I have caused surprise security inspections to be conducted at the facilities of several major contractors engaged in the performance of contracts funded or administered by this Agency. The results have been uniformly disappointing, and in some aspects appalling. In each instance, numerous and serious deficiencies were found to exist in the security programs of those contractors whose facilities were surveyed. Putting aside the specifics, however, I believe the larger point confirmed by these surveys is that security has been treated as a distinctly secondary aspect of contract performance and that it has received only such attention and resources as may have been left over after other tasks, evidently seen by the contractors involved as more pressing, were fulfilled. In most instances, it is an attitude of casualness that leaves us vulnerable to espionage or inadvertent losses more than the nature of the violations themselves.

I want to make it clear that I regard security as being of central importance in the performance of contracts funded or administered by this Agency. Nearly all of the work under contract would be of lesser value, and much of it would be of little value, if it could not be performed in a secure manner and protected against unauthorized disclosure, whether deliberate or inadvertent, which I have the statutory obligation to prevent.

I am sure you will agree with me that there is no room for relaxed or casual approaches in this field, and that strict adherence to proper security procedures deserves a

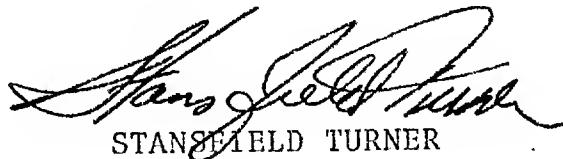
STATINTL

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Page 2

top management priority on a continuing basis to assure that risks of compromise are held to an absolute minimum. For my part, I have directed that the Agency add significantly to its industrial security staffing so as to support a new program of unannounced security audits. When and if such audits reveal serious discrepancies, I will have to review all recourses available to me to ensure security, including the withdrawal of security clearances from plants and/or individuals. I have directed other initiatives as well, including the requirement that a contractor's security record and posture be taken into account when it comes to the award of new contracts and more effective provisions within our contracts with respect to security.

I hope that you will join with me in my resolve to bring about and maintain higher levels of consciousness and higher standards of performance with regard to security aspects of Agency contracts. I am counting on your cooperation.

Yours,



STANFIELD TURNER

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The Director
Central Intelligence Agency

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Washington, D.C. 20505

DD/A Registry
77-5184

DD/A Registry
File Contracts

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